

COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? PLAINVIEW, MN ON 6-16-09

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☒ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☒ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☒ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☒ Noise
- ☒ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: _____

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☒ Agriculture ☒ Residential ☒ Conservation Easement
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: _____

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

I-174-002

I have property in Maype Township sec 27 and Oakwood township sec 27 in Walaska County. The proposed line would cross approximately 50 yards from my house. I am aware that the EMF would not cause disease but can cause changes in human physiology. It would also decrease the aesthetic value of the area. The line further crosses my farm approximately in half. I am trying to establish a conservation easement on this property. The line & maintenance would interfere with my use and enjoyment of the farm.

I-174-001

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

I-174-003

Human - The proposed line in Maype Township goes past many residential areas including a recreational camp ground and Lake Umbagog. As a large number of people would be affected both by EMF and the aesthetic problem in an otherwise beautiful natural setting.

I-174-004

I-174-001

Your comment has been noted. Conservation easements and other existing types of property arrangements are evaluated by the applicant during the routing and siting phase of the project.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

I-174-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to human and livestock health and safety with regard to EMF will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-174-003

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to recreational resources will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

I-174-004

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts to the aesthetic quality of the areas surrounding the transmission line will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

I-174-005

The project and need was explained satisfactorily except the route the line would take. Unfortunately, the attitude seems to be a north route to Olona is the most talked about. This route goes thru the Zumbro Valley which is the most scenic in SE MN. This area should be preserved in a natural state and the power line should go along existing roads, power line or railroads. It seems we are destroying all our natural beauty.

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: LEE A. NAUSS

Representing (Optional): _____

Mailing Address: 57227 - 406th AVE

City: MAZEPPE State: MN Zip Code: 55356

Daytime Phone (Optional): _____

Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.

I-174-005

Your comment has been noted. The criteria used to route the transmission line is described in the Macro Corridor Study which is available on the RUS website at:

<http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. These criteria and routing process will be addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The project is still in the development and planning stages and the utilities have not yet permitted a route for the transmission line.